



City of Richmond

Report to Committee

To: Community Safety Committee

Date: August 12, 2016

From: John McGowan
Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue

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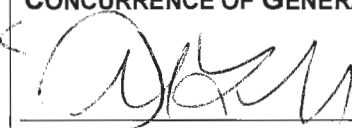

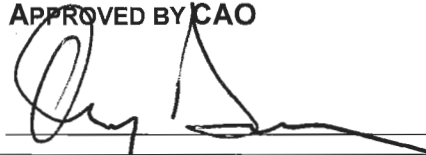
Re: Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report - June 2016

Staff Recommendation

That the staff report titled "Richmond Fire-Rescue Monthly Activity Report - June 2016", dated August 12, 2016 from the Fire Chief, Richmond Fire-Rescue, be received for information.

John McGowan
Fire Chief
(604-303-2734)

Att. 2

REPORT CONCURRENCE	
CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER 	
REVIEWED BY STAFF REPORT / AGENDA REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE	INITIALS: 
APPROVED BY CAO 	

Staff Report

Origin

This report provides Council with an update on Richmond Fire-Rescue (RFR) activities. RFR continues to work towards the City's vision of being the most appealing, livable, and well-managed community in Canada, through the delivery of its programs and services. RFR is reporting on its activities in support of its mission:

To protect and enhance the City's livability through service excellence in prevention, education and emergency response.

This report supports Council's 2014-2018 Term Goal #1 A Safe Community:

Maintain emphasis on community safety to ensure Richmond continues to be a safe community.

Analysis

Community Involvement

RFR advances public awareness, education and community bridge building by participating in training events and community activities. During June 2016 the following events took place:

- Public Education and Fire Safety Trailer visits to: Lafarge Canada Annual Safety Day Event, Tait Elementary School, Thomas Kidd Elementary School Spring Fair, ProTrans BC Fire Extinguisher Training, McKay Elementary School, Gilmore Elementary School, Mitchell Elementary School, Municipal Pension Retirees Association, St. Joseph's School, Grauer Elementary School, Pioneer Day Care, Homma Elementary School and Pathways Clubhouse.
- Community events attended include: Tim Hortons Children's Fundraiser (two locations), City of Richmond Doors Open Event, Muscular Dystrophy Charity Boot Drive (two locations), Richmond Multicultural Community Service, South Arm Community Centre and Hamilton Community Centre Night Out.
- Fire Hall Tours provided to the Fine Arts Montessori Centre and a local children's group.

Staff engaged with over 5,192 children and adults in the community providing fire safety and harm reduction information. Safety messaging during June 2016 focussed on road safety. The public was made aware of key safety points in RFR's monthly safety messaging through the media, Facebook posts and fire hall sign messaging.

Emergency Response

RFR's goal is to respond to events in a manner where loss of life, reduction of property damage and protection of the environment is mitigated. In June 2016 there were a total 922 incidents, representing a 1.7% increase in calls (Attachment 1). The average time on scene for RFR crews was 30.75 minutes, an increase of 9% from 2015.

Industry standards state that the first in unit for emergency events should be on scene within 6:20 minutes of receiving the call 90% of the time. This measurement is from the times the tones go off in the hall to the time the first unit arrives on scene to the dispatched address.

For the month of June RFR first unit on scene time was 7:39 minutes 90% of the time. RFR continues to strive to meet the industry standard and will report monthly on this metric.

In June 2016 there were 120 dispatched fire calls. Of those 55 were reportable with damage, 196 apparatus were used and 545 fire personnel attended.

Fire damage and property losses during the month are estimated at \$12,335. This total includes \$12,300 for building/asset loss and \$35 for content loss. The total building/asset and content value at risk was estimated to be \$75,071,200 and the total value preserved from damage was \$75,058,865. These numbers translate to 99% of value was protected (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Fire Calls By Type and Loss Estimates – June 2016						
Incident Type Breakdown	Call Volume	Estimated Building / Asset Value (\$)	Estimated Building / Asset Loss (\$)	Estimated Content Value (\$)	Estimated Content Loss (\$)	Estimated Total Value Preserved (\$)
Residential:						
Single family	5	2,900,000	3,300	552,000	-	3,448,700
Multi family	9	55,100,000	1,500	16,500,000	35	71598,465
Commercial / Industrial	2	-	-	-	-	-
Outdoor	35	3,000	3,000	-	-	-
Vehicle	4	16,200	4,500	-	-	11,700
Totals*	55	58,019,200	12,300	17,052,000	35	75,058,865

*The dollar losses shown in this table are preliminary estimates. They are derived from RFR's record management system and are subject to change due to delays in reporting and confirmation of actual losses from private insurance agencies (as available).

Fire crews minimized loss and limited fires to their place of origin in notable June 2016 incidents:

- House structure fire on Gilley Road. Crews arrived on scene, took command and proceeded to attack the fire. Additional crews were requested to attend along with BC Ambulance Services (BCAS), RCMP, BC Hydro and Fortis Gas. Multiple crews worked together to manage staging and supporting operations, whilst engaging in firefighter operations. A Fire Investigator conducted an investigation to determine cause and origin of the fire.

- Apartment fire on General Currie Road. Arriving crews set up operations to attack the fire which was quickly extinguished and contained to one suite. Crews set up fans to remove smoke. There were no significant injuries.
- Boardwalk fire on Williams Road. The fire was located at a radio tower boardwalk extending into marsh area approximately 1,000 yards. The fire was extinguished using pressurized water with cold fire.
- Boat fire in dry dock area of Gray Bar Road. Dry Chemical Fire extinguisher had been used prior to crew's arrival. Crews used water to ensure extinguishment of fire. A thermal imaging camera was used during operations.
- Structure fire on Gollner Road. Fire crews secured the area and shut down the sprinkler system into the building parkade. Fire crew and BCAS attended to one patient suffering from burns from the fire. The property manager was advised to provide a fire watch. Fire prevention arrived on scene to investigate.
- Structure fire on Dover Crescent. Arriving crews found a fire located in the roof and attic section of a residence. Crews quickly mitigated the fire and a Fire Investigator attended.
- Structure fire on McKay Drive. On arrival crews found that the fire had been extinguished but remained on scene to assist RCMP. It was determined that the fire was suspicious in nature. A Fire Investigator attended to investigate.

RFR crews attended to the following Hazmat calls;

- Gas leak on Williams Road. Traffic stopped East and West bound on Steveston Highway. Fortis gas was dispatched to stop the leak. Some homes were evacuated. BC Transit was brought to the scene to house the residents that were displaced.
- Line rupture of a 2" gas main on Garden City Road. Gas detection within building and traffic control was carried out by crews. BC Hydro also attended scene.

RFR crews attended to the following medical calls;

- Fatal shooting at Ironwood. Crews responded to the incident located at the Ironwood mall. Crew performed CPR on an unresponsive male and assisted BC Ambulance Services with patient care. The patient was transported to hospital but did not recover. Crews assisted RCMP with site cleanup and provided statements.
- Cardiac arrest at Petts Road. Arriving crews were told that the male had felt dizzy and then collapsed into cardiac arrest. An Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and CPR were used to reviving the patient. Crews assisted BCAS with patient care and transport to Richmond Hospital.

- Motor vehicle incident with injuries on No 5 Road. An off duty BCAS was onsite assisting a trapped driver. Attending RFR crews used motorized auto extrication equipment to extract the patient from the car onto a spine board. Crews assisted BCAS with patient care and transport to hospital.
- Motor vehicle incident with injuries on Cambie Road. Arriving crews found a two vehicle incident with one car flipped on its side. The driver in the flipped car was extricated through the back hatch and transport to hospital by BCAS.

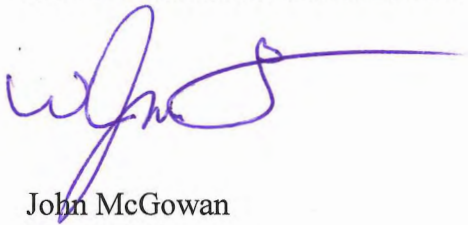
Financial Impact

None

Conclusion

During June 2016, calls for emergency response increased by 1.7% from June 2015. The most significant change was an increase of public services and medical emergency situations. RFR will continue to monitor these activities to identify trends and ensure potential solutions.

The continued increase in RFR's emergency response has a direct impact on unit availability, response times, availability for non-emergency operations and in-service training. RFR continue to review the available statistics and amend resource allocation as necessary.



John McGowan
Fire Chief
(604-303-2734)

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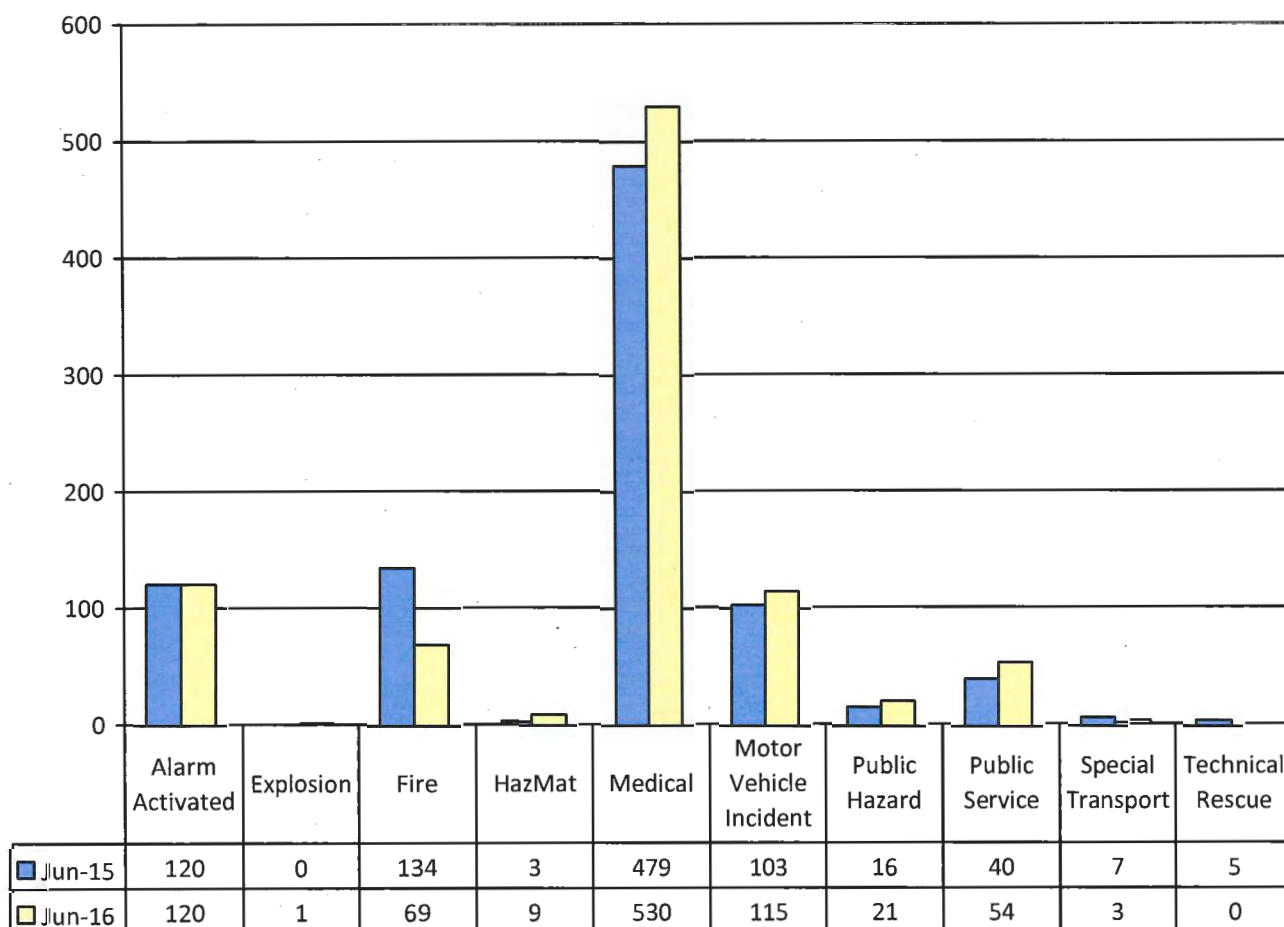
Att. 1: Suppression Activity

Att. 2: Location of June's Fire, Medical and MVIs

Suppression Activity

The following chart provides a month to month comparison regarding incidents occurring in June 2015 and 2016. In June 2016, there were a total of 922 incidents, compared to 907 in June 2015. This represents an increase of 1.7%. The increase in call volumes was primarily due to public services and medical incident types.

Table 1: June 2015 & 2016 Calls for Service Volumes



Call Type Legend:

HazMat: includes fuel or vapour; spills, leaks, or containment

Medical includes: cardiac arrest, emergency response, home or industrial accidents

Public Hazard includes: aircraft emergency, bomb removal standby, object removal, or power lines down

Public Service includes: assisting public, ambulance or police, locked in/out, special events, trapped in elevator, water removal

First Responder Totals

Medical first responder incidents comprised 74% of the total emergency responses for RFR during the month of June 2016. A detailed breakdown of the medical incidents for June 2015 and 2016 is set out in the following table by sub-type. There were a total of 530 medical incidents in June 2016 compared to 479 in June 2015, an increase of 10.6%. The increase in medical call volumes was primarily in breathing, chest pain and sickness.

Table 2a: June 2015 & 2016 Medical Calls by Type

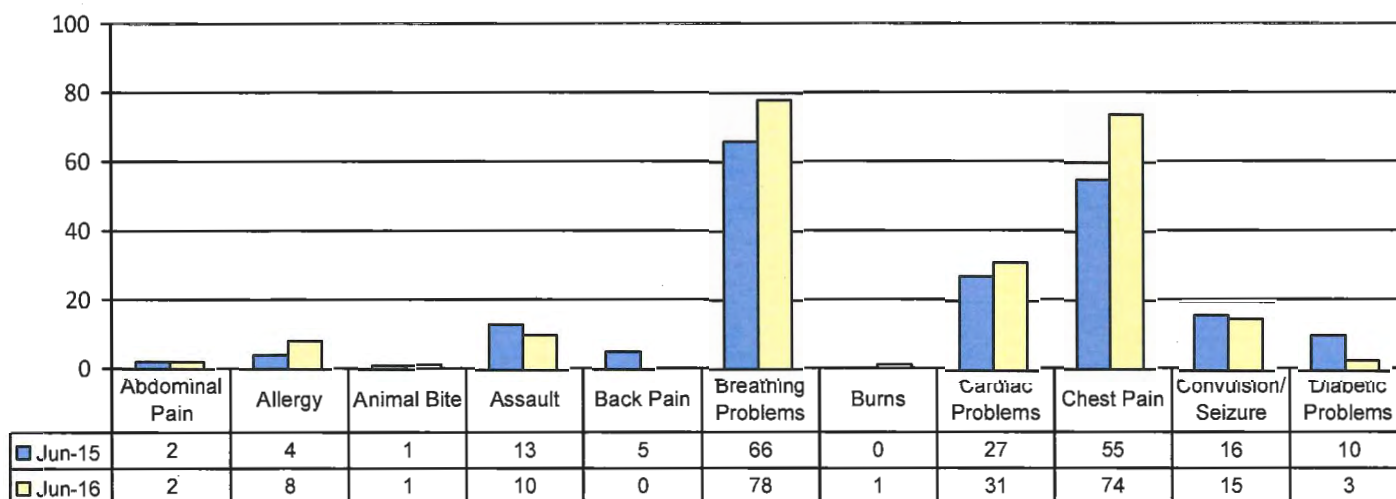
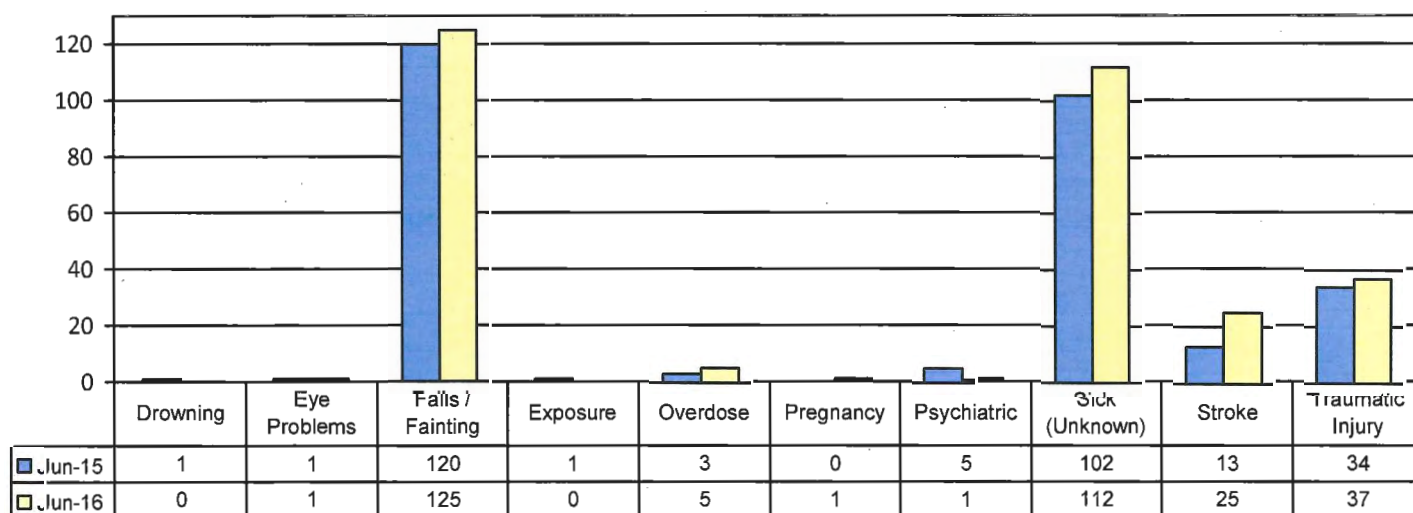


Table 2b: June 2015 & 2016 Medical Calls by Type



Fire Investigations

The fire investigation statistics for June 2016 are listed below:

Table 3: Total Fire Investigation Statistics – June			
	Suspicious	Accidental	Undetermined
Residential - Single-family	2	2	1
Residential - Multi-family	1	4	4
Commercial/Industrial	1	1	-
Outdoor	6	21	8
Vehicle	-	2	2
Totals	10	30	15

RFR investigators report all suspicious fires to the RCMP, while working alongside RCMP staff to address potential risks to the community.

Hazardous Materials

Table 4: HazMat Calls By Type – June	
	Details
Natural Gas / Propane Leaks (small)	7
Flammable / Combustible Liquids	1
Unclassified	1
Totals	9

Figure 1: Location of reportable fires attended in June (total 55)



Figure 2: Location of medical calls in June (total 530)

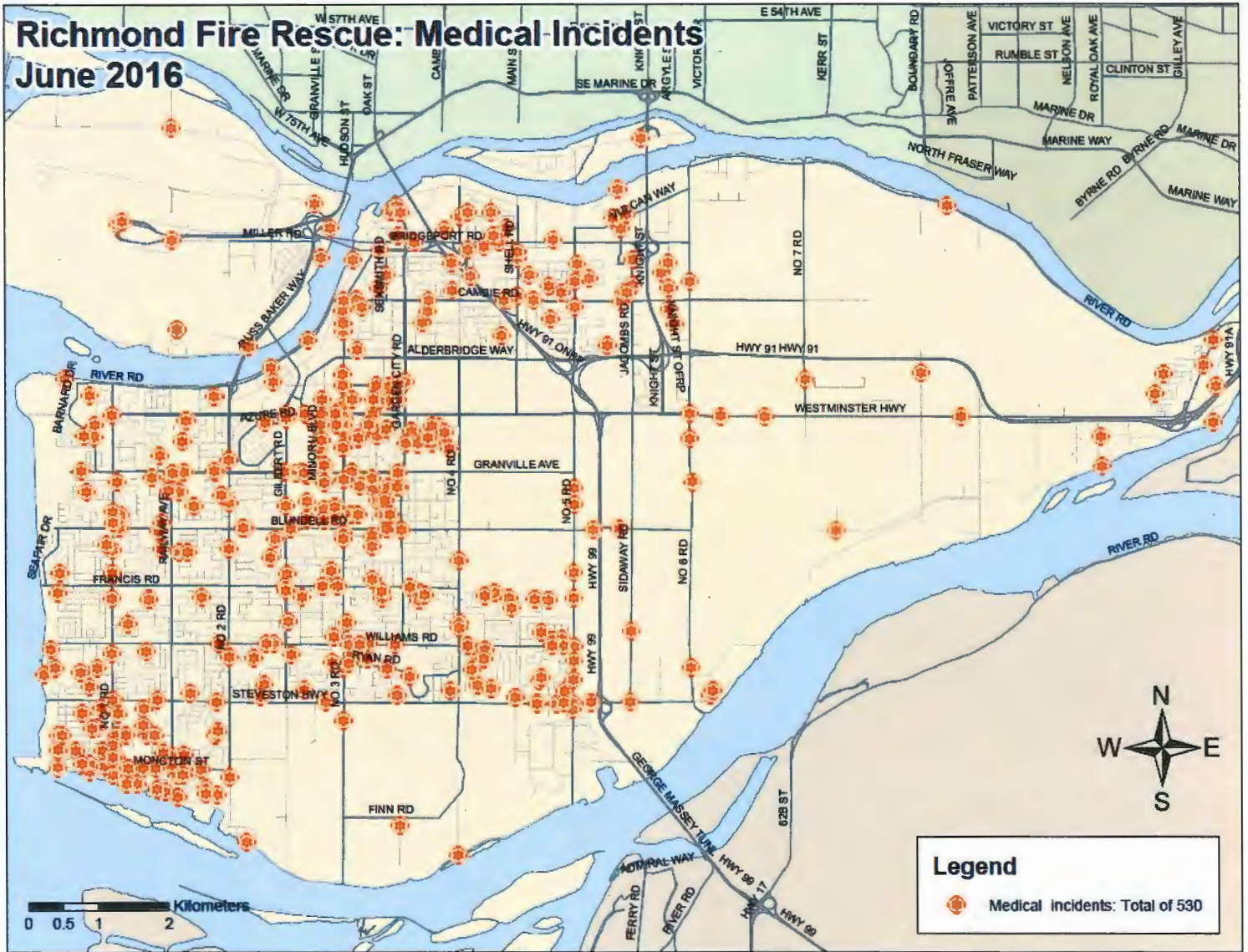


Figure 3: Location of MVI calls in June (total 115)

